Completion of Power Projects

1493. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of power projects which are under construction in different parts of the country; and

(b) by when they are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

World Bank Assistance for Rural Drinking Water Programme in Karnataka

1494. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of World Bank assistance for the rural drinking water programme in Kamataka;

(b) the number of villages and districts covered by the scheme in the State; and

(c) whether it is a fact that 10% cost of the scheme is to be raised by public contribution; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) Total cost of the project of World Bank assisted rural water supply programme in Karnataka is Rs. 447.20 crores.

(b) 1203 villages in 12 districts of the State are covered by the scheme.

(c) 7% of the total cost amounting to Rs. 34 crore is the share of the community for the scheme. The details are as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

— Total cost of the project	447.20 -
World bank share	349.00
— State Govt, share	64.00
— Community share	34.00

Gandhi Blocks

1495. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA SWAMY: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some blocks in the country have been identified as Gandhi Blocks; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if so, what special facilities would be provided in those blocks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) Yes, Sir. 125 blocks in the country were identified to commemorate the 125th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's birthday in 1995-96. The details of such blocks are given in statement *(see* below).

(b) A sum of Rs. 2 lakhs from out of the administrative expenditure of the concerned DRDA was permitted to be utilised for preparation of Intensive Development Plan for the block.

It was also envisaged that an intensive drive could be undertaken in one or more of the following activities:

(i) Houses for the homeless under the Indira Awas Yojana.

(ii) Provision of Drinking water to all habitations which have the source or are partially covered with upto 10 litres per capita as identified by the Technology Mission under this Ministry.

(iii) Construction of Sanitary Latrines as part of IAY or to cover those left out BPL families as a composit scheme.